



Security Council

Distr.: General
21 December 2020

Original: English

Letter dated 19 December 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Yesterday, Indian forces deliberately targeted a vehicle of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), which was painted white, hoisting the blue flag and was clearly marked with the United Nations logo and licence plate, and was under use by two UNMOGIP military observers. Fortunately, while the vehicle was damaged, the two observers, unharmed, were rescued and evacuated to safety by the Pakistan military.

The deliberate targeting of a United Nations vehicle engaged in discharging the mandate of the Security Council constitutes a grave violation of India's obligations under the Council's resolutions and the Charter of the United Nations, which include the obligation to ensure the safety and security of the UNMOGIP observers.

The deliberate targeting of United Nations observers and United Nations vehicles appears to be a new coercive and reckless ploy, designed to hinder the work of UNMOGIP and facilitate another Indian military adventure against Pakistan.

Pakistan has received information in recent days that leads my authorities to believe that, to divert attention from its domestic difficulties, the RSS-BJP Government in India plans to stage a "false flag" attack and thus create a justification for another military misadventure against Pakistan. If this were to happen, Pakistan will exercise its right to self-defence, under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, with the full force of its capabilities.

You will recall that my Foreign Minister has addressed several communications to you on the serious deterioration in the situation in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, and along the Line of Control, since the initiation of India's unilateral measures of 5 August 2019 designed to consolidate its illegal military occupation of the disputed territory. Since then, India's occupation force of over 900,000 troops has imposed a 500-day physical and communications lockdown in the occupied territory; detained hundreds of Kashmiri political leaders; abducted thousands of Kashmiri youth and tortured and "disappeared" hundreds of them; blinded peaceful protesters, including young children, with pellet guns; murdered hundreds of Kashmiri youth in fake "encounters"; imposed collective punishments on entire villages and neighbourhoods; and launched a plan to change the demography of Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir from a Muslim-majority area into a Hindu-majority territory.

India has also intensified its warlike rhetoric and actions against Pakistan, following its misadventure of 26 February 2019, to which Pakistan was obliged to



respond effectively in self-defence. India continues to violate the bilateral ceasefire understanding of 2003. This year, India has committed over 3,000 ceasefire violations, primarily targeting civilians and civilian-populated areas on the Pakistan side of the Line of Control and the working boundary, resulting in 276 civilian casualties (including 92 women and 68 children), out of which 27 were martyred and 249 suffered injuries.

Pakistan requests you to condemn the Indian attack on the UNMOGIP observers and vehicle; initiate a transparent investigation into this egregious attack; and call on India to immediately confirm its willingness to strictly observe the 2003 ceasefire understanding.

In the current tense circumstances in Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir, and along the Line of Control, we also urge you to respond positively and urgently to Pakistan's repeated calls to strengthen UNMOGIP and improve its ability to fully observe and report on ceasefire violations and the deteriorating security environment in Jammu and Kashmir to you and the Security Council.

I would like to request you to kindly circulate the present letter as a document of the Security Council, in connection with the item entitled "The India-Pakistan question".

(Signed) Munir **Akram**
